

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



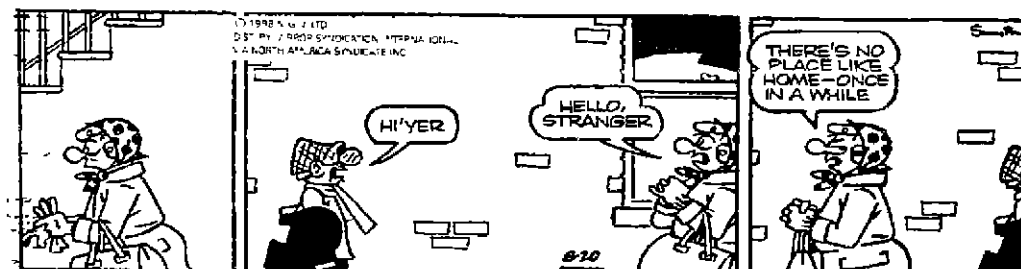
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



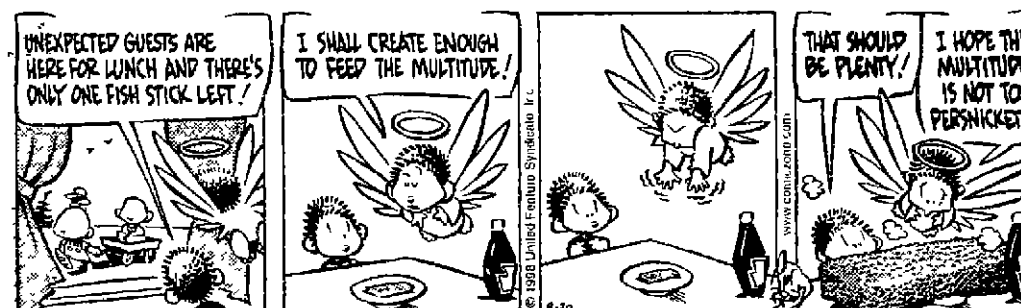
9 CHICKWEED LANE



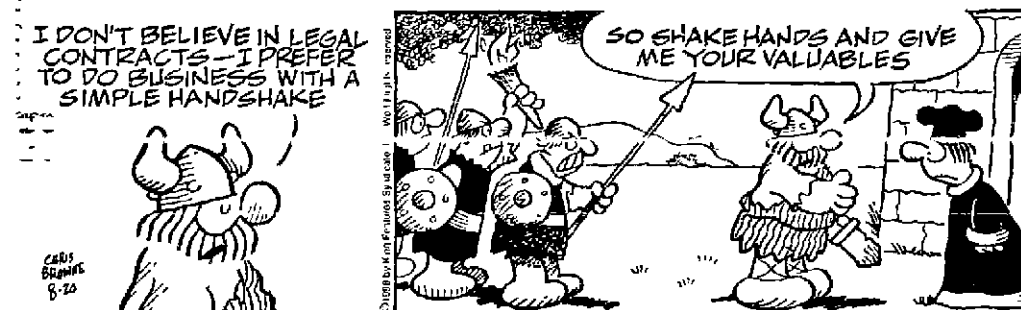
ANDY CAPP



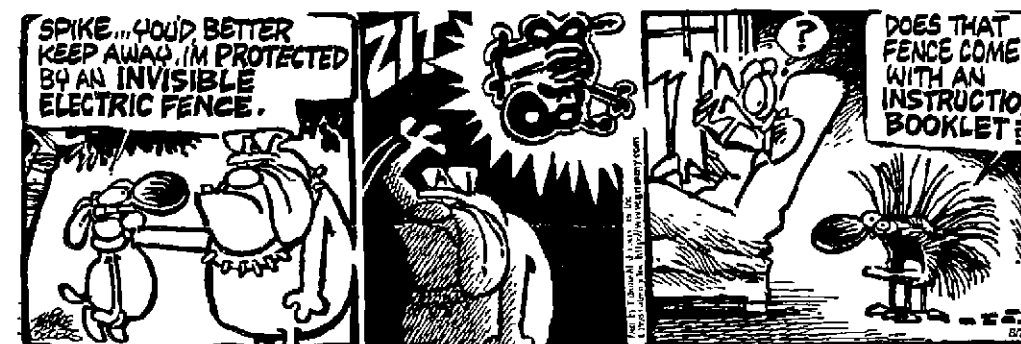
ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



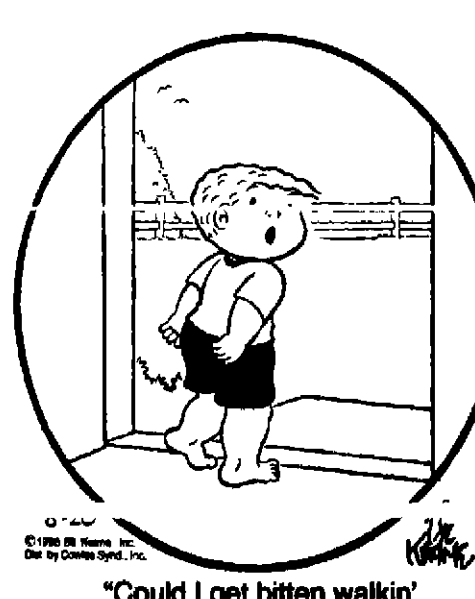
DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



HOROSCOPE

For Friday, Aug. 21, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The need to take care of many details fills the day with a sense of urgency.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Be careful to employ diplomacy when dealing with strangers.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Should family issues arise, realize that there is no right or wrong answer.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your energy level is low. Be sure to stay alert during important business meetings.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You find yourself unexpectedly plagued with worries. Don't be afraid to share your concerns.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) There will be some dark, turbulent waters to cross before the light becomes clear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) For once you should stick with the familiar rather than the adventurous.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A complete stranger suddenly wants to be your best friend. You are inspired by strong feelings of connection to your community.

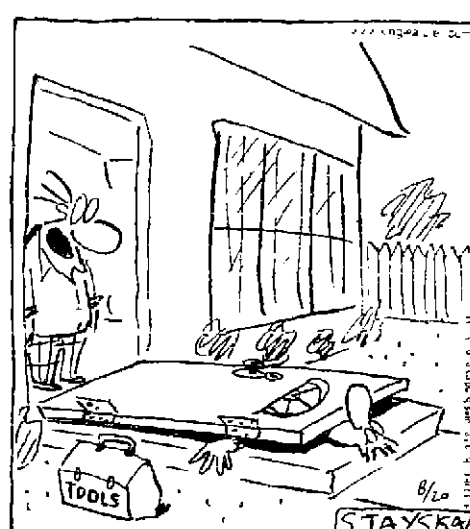
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Others might disagree with your opinions, but you still impress them with your arguments.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Remember that small talk can be enlightening, even if you never get around to tackling the bigger issues.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Your determination to finish a project impresses your boss and co-workers. Although it's fine to work overtime now and then, make sure you are not just being a martyr.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) A personal relationship might go awry, thanks to a careless slip of the tongue.

RALPH



WORD SLEUTH

Diving

ADDAXVNSQNKIFDA
XVRJTQLAYOUTOMJ
HFJACAYEWEMLWUR
PNUCOACHESRULJH
FDDKBBAPPROACHZ
XVGKTRGYEEFSQOM
KIENHFRNKVTRDBZ
YTSIWTICIEAEWVT
RQOFNAUNPRLMLKI
HFDGEGTCAZXPOWVU
SRQONMKJIHFSEDB

Wednesday's unlisted clue: SOAP

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: THEY RATE THE DIVERS

Approach	Gainer	Platform	Swan
Coaches	Jackknife	Reverse	Tuck
Entry	Layout	Somersault	Twist
Free	Pike	Springboard	

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For solution, see Classified.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0709

- ACROSS**
- 1 Like many a detective's trail
- 5 Asian taxi
- 10 Merit badge holder
- 14 Kind of "snackwich"
- 15 Light headwear?
- 16 Earthenware pot
- 17 Dummy
- 20 Prized
- 21 Rachmaninoff piece
- 22 Honor bestowed by Eliz
- 23 Last of a Latin trio
- 25 Another dummy
- 32 Unstrict
- 33 Bringing forth fruit, as corn
- 34 Healer component
- 36 Opening bit
- 38 With 60-Down, Whoopi's "Ghost" role
- 39 Sea terror
- 40 "The one that got away"
- 41 One
- 44 Indy 500 sponsor
- 45 Yet another dummy
- 46 Idle on the screen
- 48 Campaign pro
- 49 Confidence game
- 53 Keyboard professional
- 58 And still another dummy
- 61 Works in the Office
- DOWN**
- 1 Sheltered nook
- 2 They're found in prospectors' sectors
- 3 Carnival follower
- 4 Idolize
- 5 Idle fancy
- 6 Where the Clintons met
- 7 Luncheon
- 8 Stage dir. meaning "begins to speak"
- 9 Columbus sch.
- 10 Mexican munchie
- 11 Baseball family name
- 12 Used a firehouse pole
- 13 Sound
- 16 Jewish teacher
- 19 Part of a Beatles refrain
- 23 Paternal relative
- 24 "Falstaff"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DEED OLLA PERE
RUEA BROOM LXIV
AXLEGREASE APSE
APE DES TRES
PRIMARY RAFTER
ROXY FUL SHES
ALT JOKER ORSON
TEA UXORIAL MNO
FETTER INDIGNE ATIM

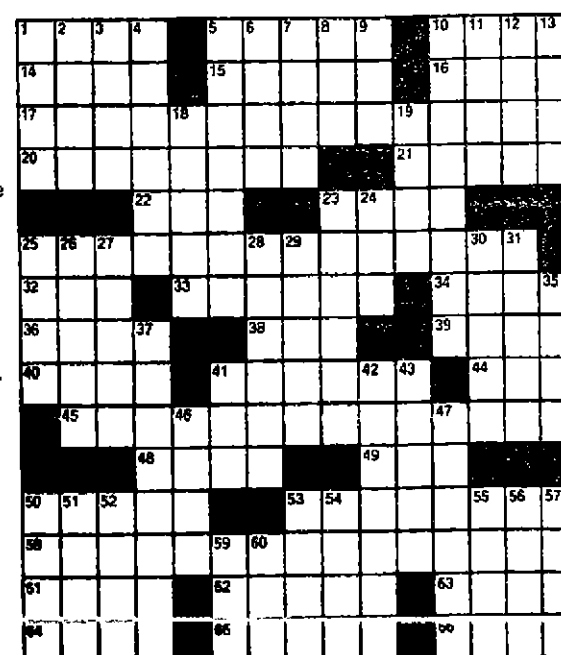
LINKS LITO MICA
THESIS STEELED
PLUS TIC HON
ALAI OXYGENTENT
GETZ UTTER HEAR
EULE TNEW ENYA

- 62 Reason for celebration
- 63 Biblical preposition
- 64 Lout
- 65 Stressand vehicle
- 66 They're inflatable

- 30 From Oslo, to natives
- 31 Mirabile (wonderful to say)
- 35 Reindeer herder
- 37 Give rise to widespread firm?
- 42 Select for jury duty Var.
- 43 Blackmore heroine

- 46 Constellation south of the Big Dipper
- 47 In-group
- 50 Tar
- 51 Rookie: Var.
- 52 Absorbed by
- 53 Annoyance
- 54 Technical sch.

- 55 Chinese dynasty overthrown by the Mongols
- 56 Mambo king Fuente
- 57 "The Dukes of Hazzard" spinoff
- 58 Seinfeldesque
- 59 See 38-Across



Puzzle by Norman S. Waber

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-CROSS

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"Please settle a disagreement for our partnership," asks a reader. "My partner claims I should have let him play the cards. I argue that my strong heart suit held more promise as a trump suit after his raise."

This is the hand that brought on the controversy. With North playing the heart game, there was no chance to make the game. As long as the defenders did nothing foolish, North could not avoid losing a spade, a club and two diamonds. Was our result a matter of luck, or is four spades the better theoretical contract?

continues our reader. In the long run, playing in the 4-4 fit will prove superior to choosing to play in a 5-3 fit. For this reason, North should have chosen to jump to four spades in spite of partner's heart support. He had a super hand for play in spades. At four spades, South's chances for success are much better. He enjoys the flexibility of holding four trumps in each hand and the advantage of discarding whatever losers he might have on dummy's five-card suit. At hearts, North has no discard on South's spade suit. In today's layout, four spades succeeds against any lead by West. With trumps 3-2, South can draw trumps and run dummy's hearts to discard two diamonds. This holds his losses to only a trump and a trick in each minor, and he can claim 10 tricks.

WEST
♠ 8 3
♥ 7 3 2
♦ A 10 4
♣ A 9 8 6 4

EAST
♠ A 7 2
♥ J 5
♦ K 7 3
♣ K 7

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 4
♥ J 6 4
♦ Q 6 5 2
♣ K 7

Vulnerable Both
Dealer North

The bidding
North East South West
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♠ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥ Pass 3♠ Pass

Opening lead Club queen

BRIDGE RESULTS

Bridge America: Saturday evening first, Bill Pennington, Don Paulus second, Murray Hall, Carol Hall

Bridge Studio: Sunday afternoon first, Cornelia Yoder, Bill Barrington, second, Doug Lyon, Gayle Barrington, Sunday evening, first, Kathleen Young, Joe Fortino, second, third, Richard Hartz, Gary Phillips, Alice Winslow, George Winslow, Monday morning, first, Larry Sunser, Julie Sunser, second, third, fourth, Mary Smith, Olin Smith, Josephine Cleveland, Don Paulus, Claude Henri, Carl Brown, Monday evening, first, Howard Johnrow, Larry Wafu, second, Gerta Freimark, Arlene Rainone, Tuesday evening, first/second, Madeline Hutchinson, Shirley Savlov, Nan Cramer, Celeste Johnson

Wednesday evening, first, Ron Dewey, Bud Nasteir, second, Howard Cring, Cornelia Yoder, Thursday morning teaching game, 1 NS, Helen Simmons, Judy Everts; 2 NS, John Beauchamp, Janet Sinclair, 1 EW, Louis Bashaw, Chevy Tiffany, 2 EW, Peg Raus, Ginny Eich; Thursday evening, first/second, Sharon Ausman, Allene Huntley, Mary Walsh, Cameron Ross, Friday morning, first, Larry Sunser, Joe Fortino, second, John DeMaria, Murray Hall; Friday evening, first, Joe Fortino, Doug Jones, second, Cliff Donn, Jane Donn

Concord: 1 NS, Judy Butcher, Laura Distin, 2 NS, Dot Joiner, Ann O'Brien, 1 EW, Gayle Barrington, Doug Lyon, 2 EW, Dale Swift, Gerry Wurdinger

Lafayette Country Club: 1 NS, Ivy Besdin, Joyce Goldberg, 2 NS, Beverly Goldberg, Myrna Rubenstein, 1 EW, Joan Hoffman, Ethel Goldberg, 2 EW, Fritz Smith, Betty Jane Seigle

Liverpool: 1 NS, Sally Jamieson, Louise Stirling, 2 NS, Dot Joiner, Peg Hesslein, 1 EW, Ann Garaisio, Alberta McCormick, 2 EW, Phyllis Letham, Clorinda Morris

Stonehedge: 1 NS, Roni Capraro, Joan Sniebel, 2 NS, Louise Stirling, Sally Wright, 1 EW, Hannah Dushay, Heleene Gove, 2 EW, Fran Dussault, Betty Pfeiffer

Syracuse Contract: Wednesday evening, first, Judy Butcher, Mary Ann Finn, second, Frank Kunsman, John Herman, Thursday afternoon, 1 NS, Betty Burns, Howard Johnrow, 2 NS, Anne O'Brien, Judy Butcher, 1 EW, Helene Gove, Rosemary Dunn, 2 EW, Alberta McCormick, Joan Landers, Thursday evening, first, Dorothy Eveleigh, Pablo Palewonsky, second, Ed Capaldo, Bob Simard, Friday evening, first, Judy Butcher, Lori Desruisseaux, second, Ken Koenig, Fred Neuberger

Call 422-4114 by Friday evening to report your bridge club results.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Singer-musician **Isaac Hayes** is 56. Broadcast journalist **Connie Chung** is 52. Musician **Jimmy Pankow** (Chicago) is 51. Rock singer **Robert Plant** (Led Zeppelin) is 50. Country singer **Rudy Gatlin** is 46. Singer-songwriter **John Hiatt** is 46. "Today" show weatherman **Al Roker** is 44.